

DISTRICT VI ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Monday June 5, 2000
7:00 p.m.
Evergreen Center, 2700 N. Woodland

The District VI Advisory Board meeting was held at Evergreen Recreation Center, 2700 N. Woodland.

Members Present

Doratheia Sloan
Linda Matney
Sharon Fearey
Bob Schreck
Tony Rangel
John Van Walleghen
Wendell Turner
Gregory Chinn
Veronica Casados
C. Bickley Foster

Members Absent

Clarence Wiley

Guests

See attached list

Council Member Joan Cole called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes for May 1, 2000 were amended to include:

The minutes were amended to read the park at 37th and Womer, if a sidewalk were installed, it would cost \$250,000 not \$50,000.

The agenda was approved as submitted.

PUBLIC AGENDA

No items were submitted

PLANNING

No items were submitted

COUNCIL AGENDA

1. Doug Kupper, Park Director spoke on Proposed Park for 37th North and Seneca.

Doug Kupper, Park Director apologized to the DAB members and the audience due to the article in the Wichita Eagle. The article sounded as if the purchase for the area at 37th and Seneca was already a finalized project. The statement from Mr. Kupper was that the City is looking at the property, which would be sold at a very good price, but there are other issues to be looked at before any land is actually purchased. Park Board Members June Bailey and Mitch Mitchell were

Also present to support Mr. Kupper and also hear the issues from the neighborhood.

Questions from Sherwood Glen Neighborhood Association members were asked, since Sherwood Glen is located adjacent to the property:

- What is the amount of one-way traffic that would be coming out of the area;
- What about off street parking;
- Flooding has been a historical problem in the area- did you know that;
- Why is there money for a soccer park, but there wasn't money for a playground/park requested by the neighbors. (Sherwood Glen has raised over \$24,000 privately for a park) and also other parks need improvement;
- Why isn't Dukes Diamond being considered and also the neighborhood has put up with problems from Dukes Diamond in the past and doesn't want it back in the neighborhood;
- Is there a need for adult soccer fields;
- What is the number of adult leagues currently and if NE and Southlakes were Filled to capacity? Is that why they won't play there?
- Why does this have to be near a residential area?
- Concern regarding access to the park and impact on neighborhood;
- How much land is being purchased? Are there other plans for the area beside the soccer fields?
- Are you planning on widening Seneca for safety purposes?
- How will the City "control" the participants and access to fields?

Citizens expressed frustration that the City was displacing the problems experienced at Schell Park from the Latino Soccer League into their neighborhood. Neighbors are concerned with the drinking, parking problems, and litter. One neighbor video taped the 37th and Ohio field and showed the trash and litter left after last Sundays games. The Sherwood Glen neighbors have also visited with the presidents of the neighborhood associations that surround Schell Park and know of all the on-going problems that they struggled with for years. Sherwood Glen neighbors stated that they have worked hard and given a lot of time and effort to their neighborhood and are very proud of what they have.

Mr. Kupper listened to all the questions and repeated his apology for what has happened. All of the questions brought forth many issues that had not yet been looked at and Mr. Kupper agreed that there would be an extensive investigation into all the questions that were asked. Also, many City departments will have to evaluate the property before there would be a purchase. This is just in the preliminary stages.

Recommendation: Council Member Cole asked the DAB Members for comments and they replied that there are legitimate concerns from the neighbors. This is an issue that they would like to continue to evaluate. The DAB would like to hear

More after this has happened and then makes an advisory decision that would be recommended to the City Council.

2. **Traffic Study Process Evaluation**

June Bailey, DAB VI requested that members from the other DAB's would assist in an *Ad Hoc Task Force* to review and make recommendations on the current process of traffic studies. The findings of this task force will be presented to the DAB's and then to the City Council with hopes of changing the process in which accidents are currently reported and evaluation of traffic signals for the City of Wichita.

The goals of the task force are to 1) Build a better reporting system that puts the police officers out on the streets instead of doing long reports; 2) Give a truer picture of accidents and problems of traffic flow in Wichita; and 3) Develop a more user-friendly process for installation of traffic signals.

A few questions asked from DAB members about the process of the Task Force were: a) When will the meetings be held, during the day or evening; b) Would this Task Force include just DAB members; c) How will this Task Force relate to the NW Traffic Study sub-committee; and d) How do the officers determine a \$500 accident?

June Bailey responded with: a) The meeting time would depend on the majority of the group; b) The Task Force will also include Police Officers; c) The NW Traffic Study is different and this task force is not to replace the Traffic Commission; and d) A Police Officer does not know if the accident is over \$500 unless he works up the accident and usually that work-up needs to be requested.

Recommendation: Council Member Cole appointed alternate DAB member David Pendergraft to assist with this committee. Also, DAB members Bob Schreck and Wendell Turner said they would like assist with the Task Force.

3. **Citizen Input on Budget Process**

On Thursday, June 8th, the City of Wichita will be hosting a city-wide District Advisory Board meeting at Century II. All DAB Members, Neighborhood Associations and Citizens are invited to attend to assist with establishing priorities for the 2001-2002 Budget. Member Bob Schreck stated he would not be able to attend due to being out of the country. Veronica Casados was not sure she would also be able to attend.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

4. Next DAB Meeting on Wednesday, June 21st will be a joint meeting with DAB IV. The meeting will be held at City Hall in the First Floor Board Room at 7:00

P.m. The topic of the joint meeting will be the Fire Study Relocation Presentation. DAB VI will hold a brief meeting after the presentation in the City Manager's Office on the 13th floor to hear an item on the **public agenda**. This item was put on hold due to the length of tonight's meeting.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

5. **July DAB Meeting-Holiday scheduling**

The regularly scheduled DAB meeting falls the night before the July 4th Holiday. The next official DAB meeting for District VI will be held on Monday, July 10th at the Evergreen Mini-City Hall, 2700 N. Woodland at 7:00 p.m.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

6. **Set priorities**

The list of issues provided at previous meetings was reviewed. The Members felt that some of the issues could be combined as the topics were similar and the decision was to start in a process where the Board could make a difference. Following is the final list:

- Looking at RR corridor and update data on bridge over floodway-access traffic.
- Pave Dirt streets-extend the Neighborhood Revitalization Act (NRA) plan-Learn about incentives for Distinct VI- CORE program presentation.
- Look at the CIP.
- Look at the North Midtown Plan-21st Street Task Force is reviewing.
- Parks-look at the new park plan for youth and recreation programs.
- Seneca corridor-Delano plan.
- Utility or infrastructure flooding problems.
- Members have committed to increase minority membership to DAB and NA meetings.

Recommendation: Prioritize top five.

1. Capital Improvement Program
2. Dirt streets- District VI has a lot
3. Floodway and Traffic study
4. Neighborhood Revitalization Act (NRA)
5. Parks

PROBLEM PROPERTIES

7. DAB Members are given the opportunity to notify City staff about problem properties throughout the District.

Tall grass-Hip deep at 3926 W.11th Previous **problem property**
NA president would mow the property if the city would pay him \$25.

At Meridian/Mclean across 9th street – Bike Path and Handicap access ramp- no cross walk. There is a High-rise apartment building with wheelchair residents.

2207 Bullinger- Right angles to 21st street- the strip of grass between the sidewalk and 21st has not been mowed.

25th and Meridian-Elite Automotive Cars- parking cars on grass and other parts of property. Questionable Mini Used Car Lot.

Sweetbrier-The alley behind Sutherlands Lumber has all kinds of hardware and lumber trash and could cause problems if someone drove behind there.

Recommendation: Take appropriate action.

OTHER BUSINESS

8. **Comments from Council Member Cole**

Council Member will discuss recent events regarding the Halfway House Advisory Board.

Five years ago there were 40 Halfway Houses. Many operated by offenders, where drugs were being distributed and other illegal activities were taking place. The City/County Corrections Board that included many departments to look into the going-on of these facilities was created to address the issue. The forming for this Board was two-fold: 1) to protect neighborhoods and 2) Have a rehabilitate environment for the residents.

Today, there are only Eight houses that are Licensed Halfway houses. Only one house is for-profit. The other homes receive grants to help with drug and alcohol treatment and counseling.

Dodge House is a halfway home that has now failed to meet the standards. Dodge House wants to have offenders be able to work in the facilities without supervision.

Recommendation: Advise City Council to keep the program the way it is now And for the standards to remain the same. *The DAB Members moved this recommendation.*

9. **Community Service Block Grant Oversight Committee (CSBG)**

Federal grant administration policy requires that a committee of private citizens participate in the dispersion of CSBG funds.

Recommendation: Appoint Linda Matney and Sharon Fearey to this committee.

10. **Tire Amnesty**

Sedgwick Co. will have two collection sites starting Saturday, June 17th and then the week of June 19th - 24th for tires. Limit will be 100 tires/person. Fliers were passed out.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

ADJOURN

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Guests

Doug Kupper, Park Staff
Mitch Mitchell, Park Board
Don and Jackie Mendenhall
Clarence and Rosa Peltin
Bernard and Helen Roths
Leon J. Roths
Keith and Beverly Brewer
Grace H. Rhodes
Don Clark
Mel and Ann Byers
Don and Ginger Maxey
Liz Weyman
Buddy and Madonna Doblin
Capt. P. Dotson, Patrol North
Philip and Donald Edwards
Becky Hinman
Sheldon & Corinne Way
Gordon P. Stewart
Lt. Roy Mitchell, Patrol North

June Bailey, Park Board
Keith & Beverly Koontz, NRNA
Officer W. Jacobs
Doug Baump
Pat Alley
John and Judi Nagel
Mr. & Lillian Baldwin
Herb Sloan
Kathleen Gurowski
Terry and Mona Weatherson
Al Fleming
Jenny White
Rodney Botty
Wilma Elston
Dale Kelley
Pat Martin
Aaron & Billie Loder
David Pendergraft, DAB alternate
Juan Macias